

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0020] In another alternate embodiment as shown in Figure 3, balloon element 22" may include a center inflated ~~portion~~ channel 54 to further add to the buoyancy of signaling device 20. Center inflated ~~portion~~ channel 54 may be filled with gas in the same manner as peripheral edge 26. Alternatively, and as shown in Figure 3, the gas may be directed to pass through center inflated ~~portion~~ channel 54 first and then around through the peripheral edge 26. A pair of blocking walls 29 may be included near the entry of the gas that prevent gas from flowing into the peripheral edge 26 and instead force the gas to flow into the center inflated ~~portion~~ channel 54. This configuration allows for deployment to roll-out in an outward direction.

[0021] Some of the advantages of the signaling device of the present invention include its simplistic construction and light weight. In addition, signaling device 20 is very versatile due to its compatibility with inflation valves and canisters of compressed gas available in the art, such as those used in inflatable life vests. Signaling device 20 has a unique design, which requires gas to be expelled only into the peripheral edge 26 or to center inflated ~~portion~~ channel 54. The signaling device 20 of the present invention also provides advantages over prior art signaling devices involving flare guns. Flare guns may accidentally be set off causing harm to a user. Flare guns may also accidentally set fire to trees or other objects when they have been deployed.

Response to 04-07-2004 Office Action  
Serial No. 10/604,925  
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